

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A back-illuminated semiconductor device comprising:

a semiconductor substrate, having:

a photodetecting unit formed on one surface,

a recess ~~thinned-portion~~ formed by etching a region, opposing the photodetecting unit, of another surface, wherein the recess is formed at light incident side of the semiconductor substrate.

an outer edge surrounding the recess,

and first electrodes disposed on the one surface at ~~[[an]]~~ the outer edge of ~~the thinned-portion~~ and electrically connected to the photodetecting unit;

a wiring substrate, disposed to oppose the one surface side of the semiconductor substrate and having second electrodes connected via conductive bumps to the first electrodes; and

a resin, filling a gap between the wiring substrate and the outer edge ~~of the thinned portion to reinforce the strength of bonding of the respective first electrodes and the respective second electrodes with the conductive bumps;~~

wherein the wiring substrate has formed therein a groove portion that surrounds a region opposing the ~~thinned-portion~~ recess and communicating portions that extend from the groove portion to an exposed surface of the wiring substrate,

wherein the exposed surface of the wiring substrate is located at an outer side of a region covered by the resin.

Claim 2 (Original): The semiconductor device according to Claim 1, wherein the communicating portions are second groove portions formed on a surface of the wiring substrate that opposes the semiconductor substrate.

Claim 3 (Original): The semiconductor device according to Claim 1, wherein the communicating portions are through-holes that pass through the wiring substrate.

Claim 4 (Original): The semiconductor device according to any of Claims 1 through 3, wherein the photodetecting unit has a plurality of pixels that are arrayed one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally.

Claim 5 (Original): The semiconductor device according to Claim 1, wherein the wiring substrate has first lead terminals, to which signals that drive the photodetecting unit are provided, and second lead terminals that output detected signals from the photodetecting unit,

and among the plurality of second electrodes, those that are connected to the second lead terminals are positioned inside the region surrounded by the groove portion,

among the plurality of second electrodes, those that are connected to the first lead terminals are positioned outside the region surrounded by the groove portion.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The semiconductor device according to Claim 1, wherein a gas is interposed between the ~~thinned portion~~ recess of the semiconductor substrate and the wiring substrate.